## **RE: Legal Aid Funding Testimony**

Appropriations Committee Legislative Office Building Room 2700 Hartford, CT. 06106-1591

Testimony By John DiBiase Divorced Men's Association of Connecticut www.ctdivorcedmen.com

John DiBiase 17 Newton Street Meriden, CT. 06450-4414 203-464-8242

RE: Legal Aid Funding

There is a justifiable need for Legal Aid Funding for indigent persons and the disabled. Pro Bono service are literally non existent. This need is critical in our Family Courts. In 2005 Governor Rowland's Commission Report on December 2002, it recommended increased Funding for Legal Services, not cuts. [Both State and Federal Governments should increase funding for Legal services for the poor. The P.S.T.C. has also revealed the growing demographics of Veterans and the disabled going through the judicial process. The General Assembly, attorneys and our Attorney General have been neglectful in protecting the needs of our states most vulnerable citizens in regards to legal representation.

Yours Truly, John DiBiase PLTI Graduate 2005 Parent with a disability Vietnam Era Veteran